

October 30, 2012

Montana Health Care Programs Notice

Therapeutic Group Home, Targeted Youth Case Management, Child-Placing Agencies, and Mental Health Centers

Eligibility for Children's Mental Health Bureau Non-Medicaid Respite Care

Effective November 9, 2012, the Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB) is limiting some non-Medicaid respite services to youth and families who concurrently receive Therapeutic Family Care (TFC) or Therapeutic Foster Care – Moderate (TFoC) in order to manage respite within the Department's appropriation for the service.

The Department is researching other options to provide and manage this service while maintaining responsible stewardship. One option may be the utilization of self-directed respite. The Department will be making additional changes to respite in the near future.

- The Department has added Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB) to the term "non-Medicaid respite" to distinguish it from other non-Medicaid respite. Other divisions within the Department, such as Child and Family Services and the Developmental Disability Program offer non-Medicaid respite. This rule pertains only to CMHB non-Medicaid respite.
- Only youth who concurrently receive TFC or TFoC are eligible to receive CMHB non-Medicaid respite. Concurrent means respite is included in the youth's current individualized treatment plan (ITP) for TFC or TFoC.
- CMHB non-Medicaid respite is provided either by employees of provider agencies or by licensed therapeutic foster parents who do not have to be employees of provider agencies.
- CMHB non-Medicaid respite service is supported by a general fund appropriation.
- Remove requirement in ARM 37.87.2205 for a written agreement between provider and the Department since this is not current practice.

Contact Information

If you have questions regarding this provider notice, contact Dan Carlson-Thompson, Clinical Program Officer, Children's Mental Health Bureau at (406) 444-3819 or dcarlson-thompson@mt.gov.

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or (406) 442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@xerox.com.

Visit the Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov>.